

*WORKMEN PRESENTED TO THE
EMPEROR.* 139

ments of the two friends, together with that of M. Lenoir (afterwards a general), was the relation of stories of ghosts and old castles, into which (the candles being extinguished) the future conqueror of Europe entered with all his heart, and was seriously offended when his companions interrupted him by tripping up his chair, shaking the table, or any other practical pleasantry.

UNION OF THE WORKMEN OF ST. ANTOINE.

On Sunday last, 14th May, a body of the workmen of St. Antoine and St. Marceau, representing a federation, which had two days before formed itself in those suburbs, to the number of 30,000, marched before the Emperor at the Tuileries. The express purpose of this union is to form a body of sharpshooters to fight in advance of the National Guard, in case the enemy shall present itself before the capital. They demand arms, with which they promise to guarantee Paris against the re-appearance of the Allies. The number of those who were ranged in order of battle at the Court of the Tuileries, and passed Napoleon previously to his review of some regiments of the line and of the Young Guard, amounted to 12,000; they had demanded this presentation, but had made no preparation for appearing before their Emperor, the greater part being in their laboring dresses and in their dustmen's hats: nevertheless, when drawn up and when marching, they fell so easily into their ranks, and proceeded in such order, that they might, in any other country, have been taken for old soldiers; indeed, many of them have served.

On the 30th of March the works of Paris were recommenced at the fountain of the Elephant, the Louvre, the new market-place of St. Ger-mains, and the Office of Foreign Affairs: the next week the workmen were doubled, the streets recovered their former names, the public buildings their imperial inscriptions, the theatres were declared on their ancient footing, and the Imperial Conservatory, for the education and maintenance of actors and singers of both sexes, restored. This is the only establishment of the kind in Europe; it was commenced under the Republic, but received its present endowment chiefly from Napoleon. The representations take place every other Sunday at two o'clock, when the pupils, in their usual dresses, sing and recite portions of operas and plays to an audience which pays for admission, and thus contributes to support the institution. M. Talma is the principal professor of declamation. The suppression of the Conservatory by the Bourbons was a measure the economy of which was not sufficiently considerable to be set off against the odium occasioned by this declaration against the amusements-of the Parisians, who had rather be limited to their ounces of bread, as in the Days of Terror, than be deprived of their shows.

F&TE GIVEN BY THE IMPEKIAL GUARD.

On Sunday, the 2d of April, the Imperial Guard gave a *f&te* to the National Guard and garrison of Paris, in the Champ-de-Mars. The com-